

OWANECO Observer

Volume 7 Issue 1 - April 2008

OWANECO LODGE 313 - SERVING CONNECTICUT YANKEE COUNCIL SINCE 1998

INSIDE THE OBSERVER

BROTHERHOOD QUEST

Seal the bond at the next ordeal or at summer camp.

WINTER BANQUET 2007

Another huge success featuring Craig Breslow, relief pitcher for the Red Sox.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 9-11 - Ordeal At Deer Lake
May 31 - Picnic & Service At Hoyt
June 13-15 - Ordeal At Sequassen
Sept. 19-21 - Ordeal At Sequassen

HIGH ADVENTURE TRIPS

3 Exciting Trips: Ocean Adventure, Trail Crew and Wilderness Voyage.

CHAPTER NEWS

Find out who to contact to become active in your local chapter.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Hello My Brothers,

As you have probably noticed, spring has finally sprung. And that means for some of us it's time to buckle down and prepare for our ever looming finals, for others it's time to turn in those taxes, and for even others it's baseball season!!! Ahh baseball ... America's Past Time! The crack of the bat when horsehide meets wood, the neatly cut grass, the smell of peanuts and hot dogs: all the excitement.

But why oh, why am I talking to you about baseball? Ernie Harwell, a former broadcaster once said, "Baseball is a lot like life. It's a day-to-day existence, full of ups and downs. You make the most of your opportunities in baseball as you do in life." If this has still not fully explained my reasoning for talking about baseball, let me go a step further. In all my letters I have sent to our Lodge, I have tried to instill a moral lesson or theme for our Lodge to focus on. This month, it deals with change. As Ernie Harwell explained, there are ups and downs in baseball, just as there are in life. To put this in perspective for you all, I have a short anecdote I wish to tell you. Only a few weeks ago while flipping through my local newspaper, an article caught my eye: "Yale Graduate Craig Breslow Determined to claim job in Indians Bullpen". I began to read the article, learning that

(Continued On Page 5)

JOIN THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

As you may have already guessed, it does take a lot of hard work to create this newsletter, all the forms, and stuffing envelopes to be sent out to hundreds of people. If you have not joined a committee and would like to stay active in the OA, this is the perfect chance. If you would like to help me and my committee out and volunteer your time, please contact Matt Buono, publications chairman, at buono@owaneco.org.

VIEW THE NEWSLETTER ONLINE AT:
WWW.OWANECO.ORG



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Mat Buono

PUBLICATIONS ADVISER

Mr. Edward Wolf, Jr.

© Owaneco Lodge 2008

The *Owaneco Observer* is a publication of
Owaneco Lodge,
Connecticut Yankee Council,
Boy Scouts of America



WHAT BROTHERHOOD IS ALL REALLY ABOUT



After 10 months of service to scouting following your ordeal, you return to take the Brotherhood Quest. By taking the Brotherhood Quest and becoming a Brotherhood member in the Order of the Arrow, you are effectively sealing your membership in the lodge. What this means is, by taking the Brotherhood Quest you show the lodge that you are serious about the Order and that you intend to learn more from scouting, effectively contributing more. By becoming a Brotherhood member, you will

help the lodge become a National Quality Lodge and help the lodge be recognized as one of the best OA programs in the country.

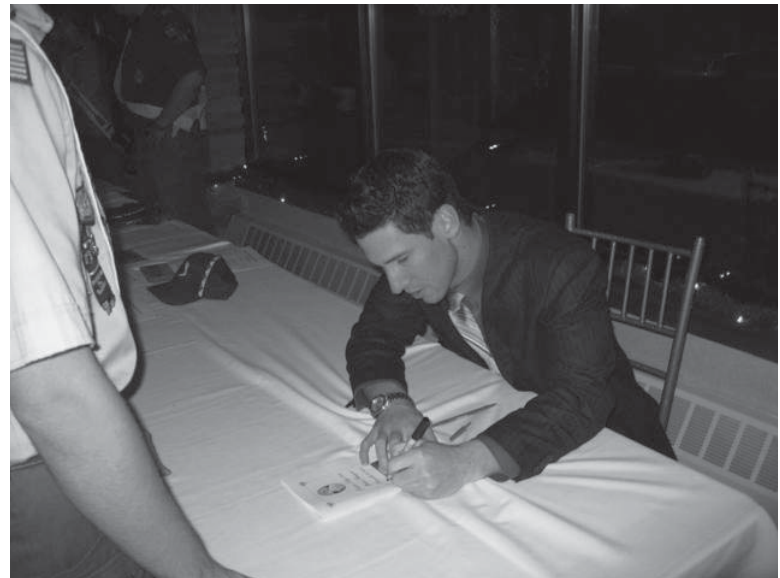
In previous years, the Brotherhood Quest cost an additional \$15 to the ordeal weekend membership registration fee. A special offer for the 2008 Ordeal season, the Brotherhood Quest is FREE! Please contact Brian Compton at compton@owaneco.org or by phone at (203) 234-9698 for more information.



A HOME RUN AT THE WINTER BANQUET

The 2008 Winter Banquet was a great success! This success was greatly due to you, the brothers of the lodge. Over 130 Brothers attended this event, which was an increase from last year's total. The guest speaker for this event was Craig Breslow, a relief pitcher for the Boston Red Sox. He was also available for autographs. As an appetizer, a variety of cheese and crackers were served, along with an assortment of fruits and vegetables. For dinner, a delicious chicken and ziti were enjoyed. Sides included salad and bread. And for dessert was a scrumptious vanilla cake.

Awards were also distributed at this event. Receiving the Founder's Award were Zach Silver and Chuck Figlar. And receiving the James E. West Award was Dave Chick Sr. All were very deserving. Door prizes were distributed and the trading post was open to all! In addition, the silent auction earned over \$2000 for the lodge. Thanks to all who attend and everyone



Above: Craig Breslow signs autograph for a fan.

who didn't attend, I would encourage you to attend next year!

2008 SECTION NE-2C CONCLAVE

The 2008 Section NE-2C Conclave will be held at Camp Keowa of the Ten Mile River Scout Camps in Narrowsburg, NY. The theme for the event will be "Indian(a) Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Conclave." Our friends from Shu-Shu-Gah Lodge (Greater New York Councils - Brooklyn) will be the Service Lodge for the event, which looks to be packed with fun, fellowship, and food. Stay tuned for more details, or visit the Section NE-2C web page at <http://www.ne2c.org>.



ARE YOU READY FOR AN ADVENTURE?

The Order of the Arrow's high adventure program continues to grow year after year. While all of the trips are full this year, it is time to start planning for next summer. The high adventure program consists of distinct programs at each of the Boy Scout's national adventure bases: Trail Crew and Philmont Scout Ranch, Wilderness Voyage at Northern Tier, and Ocean Adventure at Florida Sea Base.

Philmont OA Trail Crew: An unmatched outdoor and service experience for youth. For a bit of cheerful service, Scouts get a second week of trekking free. It is a good deal and great fun!

OA Wilderness Voyage: Our US Forest Service award-winning service project in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in Minnesota continues.

OA Ocean Adventure (OAOA): BSA's Florida Sea Base is home base for this unique marine experience and service project.

Visit the national OA web site at www.adventure.oa-bsa.org for more details. 2009 OA High Adventure Applications will be available this summer. Remember, the trips fill up fast, so be sure to register as early as possible!



2008 LODGE PICNIC

This year Owaneco Lodge is holding its second annual Lodge Picnic, and the best part about it is it's free! At the picnic there will be great food and fun! Chapter competitions will be held as well as other games just for fun. Games will include our Lodge's all time favorite game Ultimate Frisbee.

This year's picnic will be a great time to bond with friends and make new ones. The events will be held on May 31st from 1:00 to 4:00 in the afternoon at Hoyt Scout Reservation. So come down and have a great afternoon and show your support for Owaneco Lodge!



**Food, Fun, And Friendship
At The 2008 Picnic!**

BACK TO IU: 2009 NOAC

NOAC 2009 will be at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. We will be leaving around the end of July (29) and get back around the first week of August (7). At the last NOAC there were hundreds interesting classes and fun activities!

Our ceremony team will be competing to be the best in the Northeast once again and our dance team is planning to compete to be national champions. In 2009 there will be over 8,000 Arrowmen from all across the nation. There will be competitions, shows, training classes, exhibits, and much, much more.

If you don't like cooking, this is the trip for you. You don't have to cook, it is done for you. You don't like tents, no problem. We stay in dorms on the campus.

Sign-ups will be available this summer to join us on this great and exciting adventure at NOAC 2009.



THE ALL NEW HOYT

Over the past year, many scouts and scouters from all of our chapters got together and helped to refurbish the Hoyt Scout Cabin located in Redding.

A number of different projects took place during the course of the year. The first stage was to clean out the inside of the cabin. After we finished, the windows were all replaced by an Burr Roofing and new drywall was hung throughout the interior. The lodge put three coats of paint on the inside of the cabin and installed new interior

doors. A new shower was installed and both of the bathrooms were refurbished.

Outside, the cabin was cleaned, and three coats of a darker green color were applied. The final phase is just being completed: the installation of a new front porch and a handicapped ramp leading from the parking lot to the cabin.

Thanks to everyone who purchased the fundraiser patches and helped make the project a huge success!



KEYWAYDEN NEWS

Keewayden Chapter has their monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of every month.

On April 8th, all scouts in the Lighthouse District who were elected into the Order of the Arrow this winter, are invited to attend our monthly meeting. We will be having pizza and goodies and will provide more information regarding the Order of the Arrow and the Ordeal process.

Our chapter has been busy this winter. Our election team headed up by Jack Kane and strongly supported by Neil Harris and Alex Jagielski finished elections on schedule! Congratulations guys, not an easy task!

When it comes to painting, Chris, Andrew, and Tim McCloskey know how

to get the job done. The McCloskey's and Jagielski's joined other members of the Lodge to help paint Hoyt cabin. Brendan Krom and Cosette Heimann are the champs when it comes to collecting soda cans tabs.

Looking forward to summer? Nine members of our chapter will be traveling to Wyoming to join the Arrow Corps 5 work crews at

Briger-Teton National Park. Side trips will include a visit to Yellowstone National Park and a day at a rodeo.

Anyone who is a member of the Kee-

wayden chapter is invited to our monthly meetings. We will be joining with Achewon in June for an inter-chapter fun activity - more information will be available soon about this great event!



YOUR 2007 - 2008 LODGE OFFICERS & ADVISERS

Lodge Chief:
Vice Chief of Chapter Operations:
Vice Chief of Program:
Vice Chief of Inductions:
Lodge Treasurer:
Lodge Secretary:
Lodge Advisor:
Lodge Staff Adviser:

Scott Backer
Dan Miller
Chris McCloskey
Brian Compton
Zack Silver
J.J. Braddock
Bill Chin
Christopher Guarniere

chief@owaneco.org
miller@owaneco.org
mccloskey@owaneco.org
compton@owaneco.org
silver@owaneco.org
braddock@owaneco.org
chin@owaneco.org
guarniere@owaneco.org

LETTER FROM THE CHIEF (Continued From Page 1)

27 year old Breslow had bounced around the major and minor leagues after having a successful career at Yale. Not only that, but he had lived in our very own backyard, in the city of Trumbull, CT. Then it hit me. Where had I heard the name Craig Breslow before.

For everyone who attended last year's Winter Banquet, you probably have Craig Breslow's autograph. Mr. Breslow was our key note speaker that night and had explained how he could find parallels between his life and Scouting. Well, this article was another one here. Mr. Breslow is the epitome of change. He is a journeyman, going from team to team, living the ups and downs, and starting anew again, having to prove himself all over again to his new team.

Our Lodge turns ten years old this fall and the truth is, we have experienced change just like Mr. Breslow. In fact, ten years ago, we finally made it to the big leagues when our two Lodges merged. Think about how two Lodges with many all-star players became one. This year, is no different, while we may have finally settled into what seems comfortable to us, all our starters are back in our lineup, and change is all around. I ask you to embrace this change, because only by doing so can we truly triumph!

We have many great new programs and events on the horizon for our Lodge in this coming year. This includes our new Cub Scout initiative and our fast approaching Service Picnic where we plan to cut the red ribbon on our Hoyt Cabin which we have worked so hard on. We are collecting soda can tabs for the Connecticut Masons to raise funds for the Shriner's Hospitals for Burn Victims and Crippled Children, as well as sending over thirty brothers to Bridger-Teton to work on the trails in and along Yellowstone National Park. This is our year for great things; this is for our year of change. If you haven't joined up yet, grab your sash, bat, and ball, and we promise you we'll save you a seat on our bench.

We were World Series Champions last year when we received Quality Lodge, it is now time for a repeat. Let's all hit the ground running this year, and in the words of the great Yogi Berra, "When you reach a fork in the road, take it!"

Scott Backer

Scott Backer, Lodge Chief

FEATURED CHAPTER OF THE MONTH: ACHEWON

Pronunciation:

Ah-Shuh-Wan

District:

Sleeping Giant

Towns Served:

Hamden, Meriden, North Haven,
Wallingford, Southington

Meeting Location:

Zion Lutheran Church
Wallingford, CT

Meeting Date & Time:

Fourth Monday of Every Month
(September Through June)
7:00PM

Chapter Officers & Advisers:

Chapter Chief:	Matt Banas	banas@owaneco.org
Chapter Vice Chief of Program:	Josh Prior	prior@owaneco.org
Chapter Vice Chief of Induction:	Jack Crisci	crisci@owaneco.org
Chapter Treasurer:	Chris Gagne	gagne@owaneco.org
Chapter Secretary:	Allen Brinich	brinich@owaneco.org
Chapter Adviser	Dave Lewis	lewis@owaneco.org

FUN & FELLOWSHIP: THE 2008 LODGE EVENTS

To start the year off from May 9-11 at Deer Lake Scout Reservation, will be the May Ordeal. This is the Lodge's first chance to welcome its new brothers into the lodge for 2008. There is always something to do at an Ordeal, come for fun fellowship and cheerful service to one of our great camps. This event will be hosted by Chief Pomperaug Chapter.

Two weeks later Owaneco will be hosting the Annual Lodge Picnic on May 31st at Hoyt Scout Reservation. This is a day of pure fun and fellowship! Come anytime between 1:00 and 4:00 and enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs and chapter competitions!

In the following month Owaneco will be holding the June Ordeal at Camp Sequassen on June 13th-15th. This ordeal is the largest of the year and will include the election of the 2008-2009 Lodge Officers. Help induct the largest group of new members of the year and prepare Camp Sequassen to help make an impressive summer camp with your cheerful service. So get up to Camp Sequassen on June 13th! This ordeal is being hosted by Powahay Chapter.

In September, the last ordeal of they year is held. The September Ordeal will be at Camp Sequassen from September 19-21 and will be hosted by Arcoon Chapter. This is the lodge's last time to greet its newest brothers into the lodge. This is very important to keep this lodge going, so I would encourage you to attend at least one Ordeals.

In October, the Lodge will host two fun events, the Lodge Leadership Development and the Fall Fellowship. From October 10-11 will be our lodge's Lodge Leadership Development to be hosted by Scatacook Chapter. This event is a chance to get a better understanding of what the Order of the

Arrow and Owaneco Lodge is and to get trained in the operation of our lodge. More information is to come about the LLD.



you will have the most fun you've ever had before in your life! There will be themed games and movies and a cool patch. This fellowship will be extra special as Owaneco celebrates its 10th anniversary as a lodge!

Lastly, on December 29th, will be our lodge's Winter Banquet. This is a night of food, fun and fellowship. The Winter Banquet is a night to relax with your fellow brothers and to honor those brothers that have distinguished themselves in the past year. There will also be a guest speaker to speak about their cheerful service; this past year we had Craig Breslow a relief



pitcher for the Boston Red Sox. A Silent Auction is held to help raise money for the lodge's many programs and enhance our service to Connecticut Yankee Council. The Winter Banquet will be hosted by Keewayden Chapter. More information is to come.

To see the true fun of it all, you need to come to all of them! These events don't just happen by themselves there are many dedicated individuals to help make them a success. If you want to be part of the Events Committee and help plan and run Owaneco Lodge's events please contact the Events Committee Chairman Andrew McCloskey at amccloskey@owaneco.org.